

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1497 - HB 1492

April 12, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Prohibits a law enforcement officer from being a member of a hate group or terrorist organization. Specifies that membership in a hate group or terrorist organization is sufficient grounds for termination of a law enforcement officer.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006937): Deletes and replaces all language after the enacting clause. Prohibits a law enforcement officer from being a member of a gang or terrorist organization. Specifies that membership in a gang or terrorist organization is sufficient grounds for termination of a law enforcement officer. Prohibits employing agencies from considering a law enforcement officer's religious affiliation or incidents that occurred when the law enforcement officer was a minor. Creates a Class C misdemeanor for a person reporting to an agency that an officer is a member of a gang or terrorist organization when the person knows the report to be false.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 38-8-106(8), any person employed as a full-time police officer, and any person employed or utilized as a part-time, temporary, reserve or auxiliary police officer or as a special deputy is required to have a good moral character as determined by a thorough investigation conducted by the employing agency.
- There will not be a substantial impact on current or future law enforcement staffing as a result of this legislation; therefore, there will not be a significant impact to state or local expenditures.
- Any impact on the court system or local government resulting from any additional Class C misdemeanors will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The script is cursive and fluid.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jw